



Docket No.: 1359.1059

#4/A
4-12-02
JM

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Akinori IWAKAWA

Serial No. 09/995,815

Group Art Unit: 2171

Confirmation No. 9734

Filed: November 29, 2001

Examiner:

For: INTRODUCTION SYSTEM

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 3, between lines 29 and 30 insert the heading SUMMARY OF THE
INVENTION--.

Please AMEND the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 30, as follows:

JP 2000-364371, corresponding to USSN 09/815,051 filed March 23, 2001 and assigned to a common assignee herewith, discloses an invention of two of the coinventors herein and which is foundational work of the coinventors herein leading to the invention disclosed and claimed herein, affording an effective technique of giving a user an incentive to register user entry information of a service provider to a buddy list of a user. According to this technique, a user registers user entry information on a service provider to a buddy list and notifies the service provider of the registration, whereby the service provider notified of the registration issues coupons regarding the provision of service to the user. Issuance of coupons attracts users, so that registration of the service provider to a buddy list can be expected to